

CLAIMS

1. A scissors-like surgical forceps comprising:-

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a pair of arms;

a pivot joint connecting the arms intermediate their ends;

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each arm on one side of the pivot joint comprising a blade;

each arm on the other side of the pivot joint comprising a handle;

the arms being cranked adjacent the pivot joint whereby the handles are splayed apart with the blades in engagement; and

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a connector for releasably securing a length of tubing mounted on the pivot joint.

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2. A surgical forceps as claimed in claim 1, in which each blade is arcuate in shape having an open mouth facing the open mouth of the other blade.

3. A surgical forceps as claimed in claim 2, in which each blade tapers towards its free end.

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4. A surgical forceps as claimed in claim 2, in which the handles are spring urged apart.

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5. A surgical forceps as claimed in claim 2, in which there is a third guide blade mounted on the pivot joint.

6. A surgical forceps as claimed in claim 1, in which each blade tapers towards its free end.

7. A surgical forceps as claimed in claim 6, in which the handles are spring urged

apart.

8. A surgical forceps as claimed in claim 6, in which there is a third guide blade mounted on the pivot joint.
9. A surgical forceps as claimed in claim 1, in which the handles are spring urged apart.
10. A surgical forceps as claimed in claim 9, in which there is a third guide blade mounted on the pivot joint.
11. A surgical forceps as claimed in claim 1, in which there is a third guide blade mounted on the pivot joint.
12. A surgical forceps as claimed in claim 11, in which the third guide blade lies below the other blades on the pivot joint.
13. A surgical forceps as claimed in claim 11, in which the third guide blade lies between the other two blades and the pivot joint.
14. A surgical forceps as claimed in claim 11, in which the guide blade includes a releasable grip means to carry an intercostal drain.
15. A surgical forceps as claimed in claim 11, in which the guide blade extends rearwardly of the pivot joint.
16. A surgical forceps as claimed in claim 11, in which the guide blade extends substantially the same distance from the pivot joint as the other blades.
17. A surgical forceps as claimed in claim 11, in which the guide blade is substantially flat, tapers towards its free end and carries a pivot pin to form the pivot joint.
18. A surgical forceps as claimed in claim 11, in which the guide blade is

substantially rectangular in cross-section tapering from the pivot joint towards its free end.

19. A surgical forceps as claimed in claim 11, in which the guide blade is mounted between the other blades so that the guide blade is sandwiched therebetween with the handles splayed apart.
20. A surgical forceps as claimed in claim 11, in which the guide blade extends rearwardly of the pivot joint and terminates in a bifurcated portion, each arm of which carries an intercostal drain gripper of arcuate shape which can be urged apart to receive the intercostal drain and form releasable grip means.
21. A surgical forceps as claimed in claim 11, in which the dimensions of the blades are so chosen that the blades project at approximately the same height above the guide blade as the intercostal drain.
22. A surgical forceps as claimed in claim 11, in which a spring is mounted between each handle and the guide blade to urge the handles away from the guide blade and thus apart.
23. A surgical forceps as claimed in claim 20, in which the arms cross intermediate their ends when an intercostal drain is not mounted therein.
24. A scissors-like surgical forceps comprising:-
- a pair of arms;
 - a pivot joint connecting the arms intermediate their ends;
 - each arm on one side of the pivot joint comprising a blade;
 - each arm on the other side of the pivot joint comprising a handle;
 - the arms being cranked adjacent the pivot joint whereby the handles

are splayed apart with the blades in engagement;

a connector for releasably securing a length of tubing mounted on the pivot joint; and

each blade being arcuate in shape having an open mouth facing the open mouth of the other blade.

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25. A surgical forceps as claimed in claim 24, in which each blade tapers towards its free end.
26. A surgical forceps as claimed in claim 25, in which the handles are spring urged apart.
27. A surgical forceps as claimed in claim 25, in which there is a third guide blade mounted on the pivot joint.
28. A surgical forceps as claimed in claim 24, in which the handles are spring urged apart.
29. A surgical forceps as claimed in claim 28, in which there is a third guide blade mounted on the pivot joint.
30. A surgical forceps as claimed in claim 24, in which there is a third guide blade mounted on the pivot joint.
31. A scissors-like surgical forceps comprising:-
- a pair of arms;
- a pivot joint connecting the arms intermediate their ends;
- each arm on one side of the pivot joint comprising a blade;

each arm on the other side of the pivot joint comprising a handle;

the arms being cranked adjacent the pivot joint whereby the handles are splayed apart with the blades in engagement;

a connector for releasably securing a length of tubing mounted on the pivot joint; and

a third guide blade mounted on the pivot joint.

32. A surgical forceps as claimed in claim 31, in which each blade tapers towards its free end.

33. A surgical forceps as claimed in claim 32, in which the handles are sprung apart.

34. A surgical forceps as claimed in claim 31, in which the handles are sprung apart.

35. A surgical forceps as claimed in claim 31, in which the third guide blade lies below the other blades on the pivot joint.

36. A surgical forceps as claimed in claim 31, in which the third guide blade lies between the other two blades and the pivot joint.

37. A surgical forceps as claimed in claim 31, in which the guide blade includes a releasable grip means to carry an intercostal drain.

38. A surgical forceps as claimed in claim 31, in which the guide blade extends rearwardly of the pivot joint.

39. A surgical forceps as claimed in claim 31, in which the guide blade extends substantially the same distance from the pivot joint as the other blades.

40. A surgical forceps as claimed in claim 31, in which the guide blade is substantially flat, tapers towards its free end and carries a pivot pin to form the pivot joint.
- 5 41. A surgical forceps as claimed in claim 31, in which the guide blade is substantially rectangular in cross-section tapering from the pivot joint towards its free end.
- 10 42. A surgical forceps as claimed in claim 31, in which the guide blade is mounted between the other blades so that the guide blade is sandwiched therebetween with the handles splayed apart.
- 15 43. A surgical forceps as claimed in claim 31, in which the guide blade extends rearwardly of the pivot joint and terminates in a bifurcated portion, each arm of which carries an intercostal drain gripper of arcuate shape which can be urged apart to receive the intercostal drain and form releasable grip means.
- 20 44. A surgical forceps as claimed in claim 31, in which the dimensions of the blades are so chosen that the blades project at approximately the same height above the guide blade as the intercostal drain.
- 25 45. A surgical forceps as claimed in claim 31, in which a spring is mounted between each handle and the guide blade to urge the handles away from the guide blade and thus apart.
46. A surgical forceps as claimed in claim 43, in which the arms cross intermediate their ends when an intercostal drain is not mounted therein.
- 30 47. A scissors-like surgical forceps comprising:-
- a pair of arms;
- a pivot joint connecting the arms intermediate their ends;

each arm on one side of the pivot joint comprising a blade, each blade being arcuate in shape having an open mouth facing the open mouth of the other blade;

5 each arm on the other side of the pivot joint comprising a handle;

the arms being cranked adjacent the pivot joint whereby the handles are splayed apart with the blades in engagement;

10 a connector for releasably securing a length of tubing mounted on the pivot joint; and

a third guide blade mounted on the pivot joint.

15 48. A surgical forceps as claimed in claim 47, in which each blade tapers towards its free end.

49. A surgical forceps as claimed in claim 48, in which the handles are spring urged apart.

20 50. A surgical forceps as claimed in claim 47, in which the handles are spring urged apart.

25 51. A surgical forceps as claimed in claim 47, in which the guide blade includes a releasable grip means to carry an intercostal drain.

52. A surgical forceps as claimed in claim 47, in which the guide blade extends rearwardly of the pivot joint.

30 53. A surgical forceps as claimed in claim 47, in which the guide blade extends substantially the same distance from the pivot joint as the other blades.

54. A surgical forceps as claimed in claim 47, in which the guide blade is substantially flat, tapers towards its free end and carries a pivot pin to form the

pivot joint.

55. A surgical forceps as claimed in claim 47, in which the guide blade is mounted between the other blades so that the guide blade is sandwiched therebetween with the handles splayed apart.
56. A surgical forceps as claimed in claim 47, in which the guide blade extends rearwardly of the pivot joint and terminates in a bifurcated portion, each arm of which carries an intercostal drain gripper of arcuate shape which can be urged apart to receive the intercostal drain and form releasable grip means.
57. A surgical forceps as claimed in claim 47, in which the dimensions of the blades are so chosen that the blades project at approximately the same height above the guide blade as the intercostal drain.
58. A surgical forceps as claimed in claim 47, in which a spring is mounted between each handle and the guide blade to urge the handles away from the guide blade and thus apart.
59. A surgical forceps as claimed in claim 56, in which the arms cross intermediate their ends when an intercostal drain is not mounted therein.
60. A scissors-like surgical forceps comprising:-
- a pair of arms;
 - a pivot joint connecting the arms intermediate their ends;
 - each arm on one side of the pivot joint comprising a blade;
 - each arm on the other side of the pivot joint comprising a handle;
 - the arms being cranked adjacent the pivot joint whereby the handles are splayed apart with the blades in engagement; and

a connector for releasably securing a length of tubing mounted on one of the arms.

- 5 61. A surgical forceps as claimed in claim 60, in which each blade is arcuate in shape having an open mouth facing the open mouth of the other blade.
62. A surgical forceps as claimed in claim 61, in which each blade tapers towards its free end.
- 10 63. A surgical forceps as claimed in claim 61, in which the handles are spring urged apart.
64. A surgical forceps as claimed in claim 61, in which there is a third guide blade mounted on the pivot joint.
- 15 65. A surgical forceps as claimed in claim 60, in which each blade tapers towards its free end.
- 20 66. A surgical forceps as claimed in claim 65, in which the handles are spring urged apart.
67. A surgical forceps as claimed in claim 65, in which there is a third guide blade mounted on the pivot joint.
- 25 68. A surgical forceps as claimed in claim 60, in which the handles are spring urged apart.
69. A surgical forceps as claimed in claim 68, in which there is a third guide blade mounted on the pivot joint.
- 30 70. A surgical forceps as claimed in claim 60, in which there is a third guide blade mounted on the pivot joint.

71. A surgical forceps as claimed in claim 70, in which the third guide blade lies below the other blades on the pivot joint.
- 5 72. A surgical forceps as claimed in claim 70, in which the third guide blade lies between the other two blades and the pivot joint.
73. A surgical forceps as claimed in claim 70, in which the guide blade includes a releasable grip means to carry an intercostal drain.
- 10 74. A surgical forceps as claimed in claim 70, in which the guide blade extends rearwardly of the pivot joint.
75. A surgical forceps as claimed in claim 70, in which the guide blade extends substantially the same distance from the pivot joint as the other blades.
- 15 76. A surgical forceps as claimed in claim 70, in which the guide blade is substantially flat, tapers towards its free end and carries a pivot pin to form the pivot joint.
- 20 77. A scissors-like surgical forceps comprising:-
- a pair of arms;
- a pivot joint connecting the arms intermediate their ends;
- 25 each arm on one side of the pivot joint comprising a blade;
- each arm on the other side of the pivot joint comprising a handle;
- 30 the arms being cranked adjacent the pivot joint whereby the handles are splayed apart with the blades in engagement; and
- a third guide blade mounted on the pivot joint, the guide blade extending rearwardly of the pivot joint and terminating in a bifurcated

portion, each arm of which carries a tubing gripper and arcuate shape which can be urged apart to receive the tubing and form releasable grip means.

- 5 78. A surgical forceps as claimed in claim 77, in which the arms cross intermediate their ends when an intercostal drain is not mounted therein.
- 10 79. A surgical forceps as claimed in claim 77, in which the handles are spring urged apart.
80. A surgical forceps as claimed in claim 77, in which a spring is mounted between each handle and the guide blade to urge the handles away from the guide blade and thus apart.
- 15 81. A surgical forceps as claimed in claim 77, in which the third guide blade lies below the other blades on the pivot joint.
82. A surgical forceps as claimed in claim 77, in which the third guide blade lies between the other two blades and the pivot joint.
- 20 83. A surgical forceps as claimed in claim 77, in which the guide blade extends forward of the pivot joint substantially the same distance from the pivot joint as the other blades.
- 25 84. A surgical forceps as claimed in claim 77, in which the guide blade is substantially flat, tapers towards its free end and carries a pivot pin to form the pivot joint.
- 30 85. A scissors-like surgical forceps comprising:-
- a pair of arms;
- a pivot joint connecting the arms intermediate their ends;

each arm on one side of the pivot joint comprising a blade;

each arm on the other side of the pivot joint comprising a handle;

5 the arms being cranked adjacent the pivot joint whereby the handles are splayed apart with the blades in engagement;

10 a connector for releasably securing a length of tubing mounted on the pivot joint; and

15 a third guide blade mounted on the pivot joint, the third guide blade extending substantially the same distance from the pivot joint as the other blades, and the third guide blade extending rearwardly of the pivot joint and terminating in a bifurcated portion, each arm of which carries a tubing gripper of arcuate shape which can be urged apart to receive the tubing and form releasable grip means.

86. A surgical forceps as claimed in claim 85, in which the arms cross intermediate their ends when an intercostal drain is not mounted therein.

20 87. A surgical forceps as claimed in claim 85, in which the handles are spring urged apart.

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